

General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 250

February Session, 2022

LCO No. 2323



Referred to Committee on HIGHER EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT

Introduced by: (HED)

AN ACT CONCERNING STUDENT LOAN REIMBURSEMENT FOR CONNECTICUT RESIDENTS WHO GRADUATED FROM A STATE UNIVERSITY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2022) (a) For the purposes of this
- 2 section, "eligible student loan" means a loan issued or refinanced by the
- 3 Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority to finance
- 4 attendance at a state university.

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- 5 (b) There is established a student loan reimbursement program for
 - residents of the state who graduated from a state university to be
- 7 administered by the Office of Higher Education. Said office shall
- 8 approve the participation of any person in the student loan
- 9 reimbursement program who (1) graduated with a bachelor's degree
- 10 from a state university, (2) is a resident of the state for not less than five
- 11 consecutive years since graduation from a state university, (3) has a
- 12 Connecticut adjusted gross income of not more than one hundred
- 13 twenty-five thousand dollars, and (4) has an eligible student loan or
- 14 agrees to refinance any private student loans through the Connecticut

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15 Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority.

- (c) Persons who qualify under subsection (b) of this section may apply to the Office of Higher Education to participate in the student loan reimbursement program at such time and in such manner as the executive director of said office prescribes.
- (d) For each person approved to participate in the student loan reimbursement program, the Office of Higher Education shall (1) within available appropriations, pay an amount of not more than five thousand dollars to the Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority as a credit against the balance of such person's eligible student loan, provided no person shall participate in the student loan reimbursement program for more than five years or receive more than twenty-five thousand dollars in aggregate student loan payments, and (2) require such person to volunteer for an approved nonprofit organization in the state for not less than one hundred hours for each year of participation in the student loan reimbursement program. Such volunteer hours may include, but need not be limited to, service on a nonprofit board.
- (e) Any unexpended funds appropriated for purposes of this section shall not lapse at the end of the fiscal year but shall be available for expenditure during the next fiscal year.
- (f) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, the Office of Higher Education may use up to five per cent of the funds appropriated for purposes of this section for program administration, promotion and recruitment activities.

This act sha sections:	ll take effect as follo	ws and shall amend the following
Section 1	July 1, 2022	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To establish a loan reimbursement program for Connecticut residents who graduated from a state university.

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[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

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